

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 2 was objected to because of informalities. Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Siam (GB 655467). Claims 2 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki (JP 10103089) in view of Siam.

There is a critical difference between the present invention and the Siam reference. As shown in the attached reference figures, the structure of the fitting grooves and the posture of the gaskets, when fitted in the grooves, are quite different between Siam and the present invention. Such differences make different conditions in the gaskets when assembling the two members (force from the other member, sliding resistance, deformation, etc.), so it would be difficult to combine the Siam and Suzuki (JP 10103089) references.

For example, in the present invention, the gasket is applied with different forces from the other member depending on the location in the fitting grooves. .

On the upstream side area of the fitting grooves, in the other member's moving direction, the gaskets are pushed in the inward direction to the center of the gasket, and an inside surface of the gasket is pressed to the inside side wall of the fitting

grooves. On the downstream side of the fitting groove, the gasket is pushed in the outward direction from the center of the gaskets, and an outside surface of the gaskets is pressed to the outside side wall of the fitting grooves. On the middle areas between the upstream side area and the downstream side area of the fitting grooves, the gaskets are pushed in a tangential direction with respect to a circle of the gasket, and no force presses the gasket to the side walls of the fitting grooves.

One of ordinary skill in the art would not choose Siam as a reference for rejecting the present invention and the steps of fitting gaskets around a throttle bore of a throttle body. See Fig. 6B for passage through the throttle bore and the gaskets on the opposite inclined faces of the throttle body with the gaskets encircling opposite ends of the throttle bore.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application should now be in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is in order, and such favorable action and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

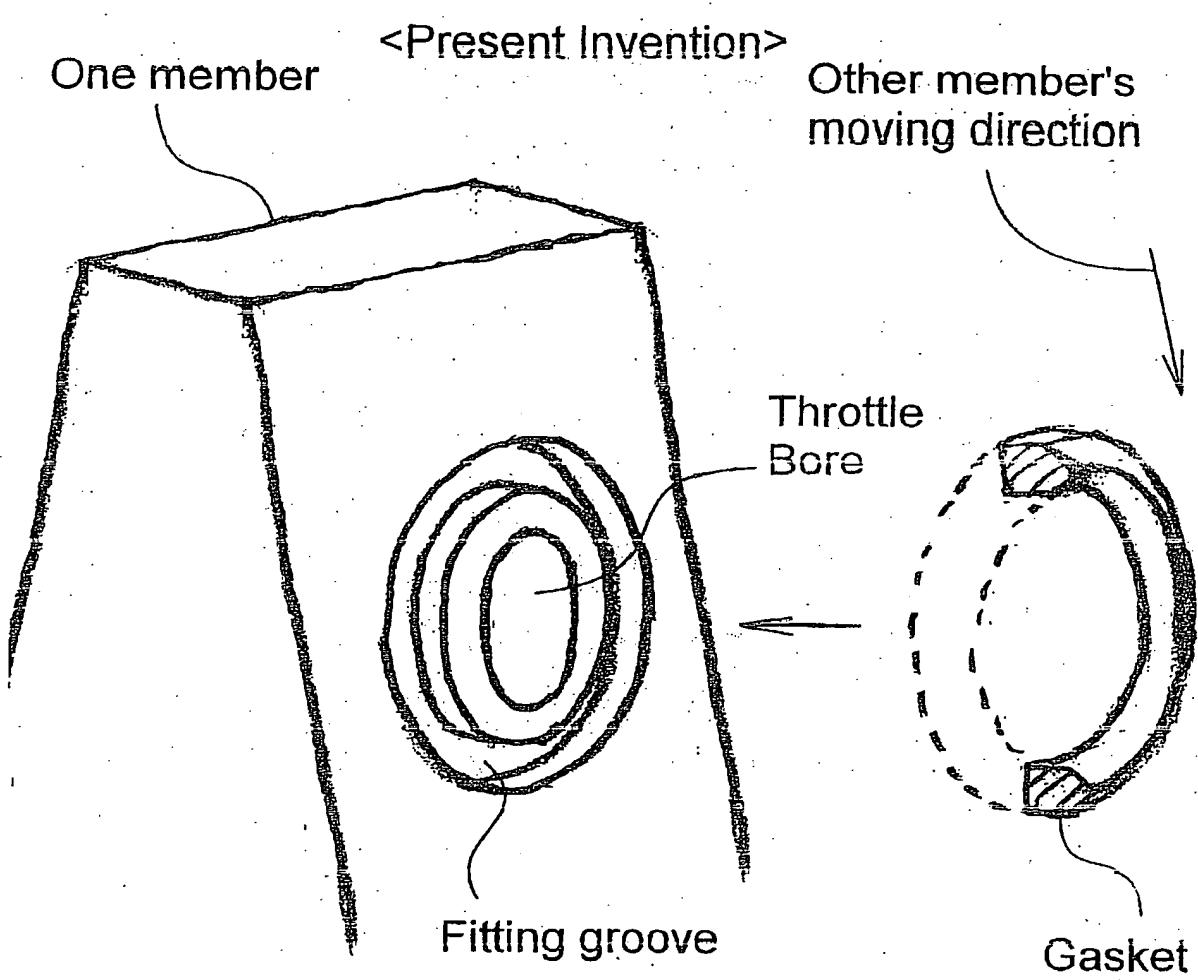
However, if after reviewing the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner has any questions or comments, he is cordially invited to contact the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

JACOBSON HOLMAN PLLC

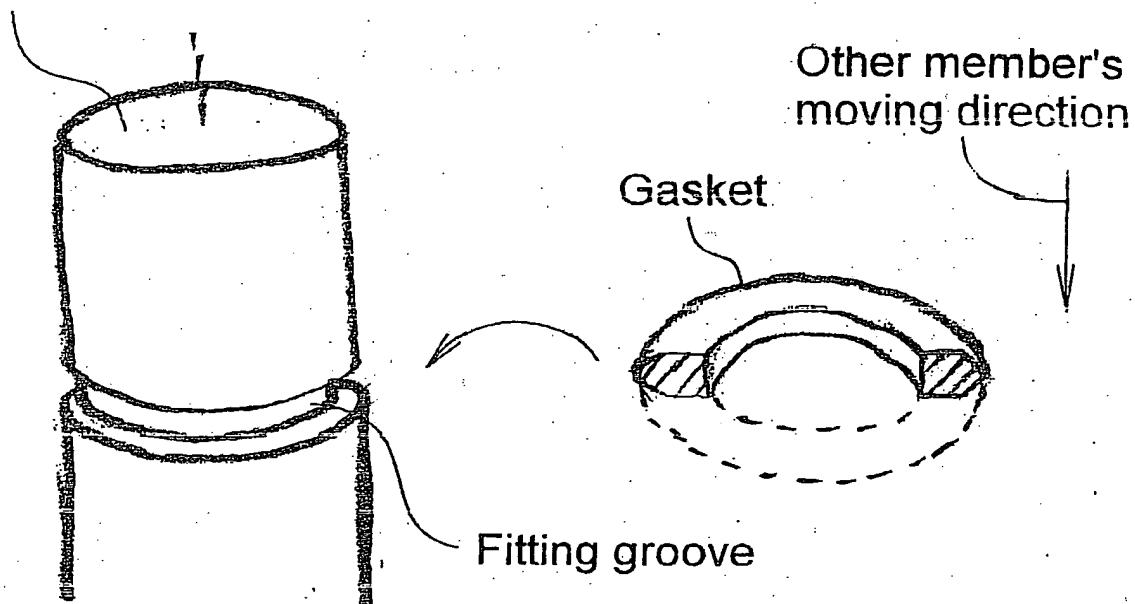
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<SIAM (GB655467)>

One member



Fitting groove